

Application Number 09/781,372
Amendment dated December 14, 2004
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 15, 2004

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated September 15, 2004. Applicant has canceled claims 2, 3, 23, 50, and 52, and amended claims 1, 4, 5, 16, 19, 20, 36, 42, 48, and 49. Claims 1, 4-22, 24-49, and 51 are pending upon entry of this amendment.

Interview Summary

As a preliminary matter, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview on November 2, 2004, Mr. Steven Floeder, a named inventor on the present application, and Mr. Brian Syzmanski, Applicants' representative, participated in the interview. During the interview, claims 1-3 were discussed in view of the cited references. No agreement was reached.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 3-5, 23 and 50 as including subject matter that would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In this amendment, Applicant has:

amended independent claim 1 to include allowable subject matter from claims 2 and 3;
rewritten claim 5 in independent form to include subject matter from independent claim

1;

amended independent claim 19 to include allowable subject matter from claims 2 and 3;

amended independent claim 20 to include allowable subject matter from claim 23;

amended independent claim 36 to include allowable subject matter from claims 23;

amended independent claim 42 to include allowable subject matter from claims 23;

amended independent claim 48 to include allowable subject matter from claims 2 and 3;

and

amended independent claim 49 to include allowable subject matter from claim 50.

Consequently, pending claims 1, 4-22, 24-49, and 51 are in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

All claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-1778. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

Date:

December 14, 2004

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